



Agriculture

A Chinese philosopher once wrote, "The well-being of the people is like a tree—agriculture is its root; manufacture and commerce are its branches and life. If the root is injured, the leaves fall, the branches break, and the tree dies."

The Dairymen's League of New York will try out an experiment in co-operation under which the farmer members will pool the proceeds of their milk.

Ohio sugar beet growers are organizing a state association through which all future dealings with the sugar refineries will be carried on.

Chicory, which is grown as a vegetable and forage crop in Europe, has become a troublesome weed in the United States.

The Department of Agriculture is ready to lend the motion picture, "Modern Concrete Road Construction," for use before schools, churches and good roads organizations.

The Bureau of Markets of the Department of Agriculture has a number of experienced men who are at the disposal of farmers wishing to organize co-operative shipping and marketing associations.

The agricultural department of Mexico is planning to establish 16 schools in places where they are most needed. Students will specialize in farm work, particularly that work having to do with irrigation.

Between 80,000,000 and 100,000,000 acres of land in the United States are too wet for cultivation, being in swamps or subject to periodical overflows.

The San Joaquin Valley raisin crop for 1919 was sold for \$50,000,000.

In Alaska, potatoes planted the first week in June mature about September eleventh and yield between 7,000 to 9,000 pounds an acre. The government experiment station produced cabbages which weighed eight to twelve pounds while sugar beets grown at Matanuska contained from fourteen to seventeen per cent sugar.

Eighty-nine per cent of the foreign trade of the United States is Atlantic Coast business.

In Russia the wheat-bearing soil tapped by the Trans-Siberian Railway is greater than the total acreage of the United States, Argentina and Canada combined. During the war Siberia produced nearly four hundred million bushels of wheat. Ten thousand carloads of beans were dumped at Harbin more than two years ago and they were still there the first part of 1920 because no railroads or vessels were available to carry the produce to the markets of the world.

There were 3,373 strikes and lockouts involving 4,112,507 workers during 1919. Estimates of the losses sustained by the workers are too uncertain to be of value as statistics.

It is estimated, in a report made to the Chamber of Commerce of the United States, that for twelve manufacturing establishments employing 40,000 men, the loss annually from discharging workers and employing substitutes was \$831,000.

The 30,000,000 industrial workers in the United States lose on an average nine days a year through sickness. The monetary loss to the workers is \$700,000,000. The loss in productive effort amounts to 270,000,000 days a year.

The government Forest Products Laboratory estimates that there is a daily loss to manufacturers and shippers of \$500,000, caused by faulty containers and improper packing.

Between four and five million Christmas trees are used in the United States every year.

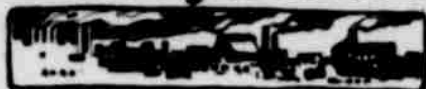
Farmers of North Carolina, being unable to sell their wool at what they consider a fair price, have had it made into blankets and will sell the blankets.

Eighteen billion dollars represents the natural wealth of Canada.

Mexico has announced plans to encourage the building of a merchant marine.

The Three Arts

Manufacture



Canada's potato crop averages 176.5 bushels to the acre this year against 153.5 bushels last year. The total yield was 138,527,000 bushels.

Unless some of the members reverse themselves their expressions indicate that Congress will do nothing to retard the falling price movement of farm products.

Senator-elect Heflin, of Alabama, has informed a congressional committee that the decline in the price of cotton has cost planters \$1,250,000,000.

Late reports from the Southern Hemisphere forecast favorable prospects for crops of 1920-1921.

Co-operative marketing of wool through the county agent gave growers of Williamson County, Texas, 60 cents a pound at a time when local buyers were offering but 35 cents.

Overstocking of the ranges in New Mexico is said to have caused cattle losses varying from 16.7 to 35 per cent.

Twelve thousand and thirty tons of coal were discharged from the collier Ulysses at the Cristobal Coaling Plant of the Panama Canal in 15 hours and 25 minutes.

Increased business in Canada has necessitated the stringing of thousands of miles of new telegraph wires.

Twenty-nine American vessels arrived in London in November, the largest number ever registered at that port in any one month.

With six per cent of the world's population and seven per cent of its land, the United States produces 52 per cent of the world's coal, 20 per cent of the world's gold, 25 per cent of the world's wheat, 40 per cent of the world's iron and steel, 40 per cent of the world's lead, 40 per cent of the world's silver, 50 per cent of the world's zinc, 60 per cent of the world's aluminum, 60 per cent of the world's oil, 60 per cent of the world's cotton, 75 per cent of the world's corn, 85 per cent of the world's automobiles, 60 per cent of the world's copper and operates 40 per cent of the railroads of the world.

Only ten per cent of the business firms in the United States keep accurate cost systems as against 90 per cent in Germany.

Shoe factories in Auburn, Maine, which have been running half time have returned to full schedule.

A farmers' co-operative organization in Saskatchewan handled nearly 40,000,000 bushels of wheat during the year ending July 31, 1920. Two hundred and ninety-four elevators were operated.

Soft coal production for the week ending December 4 broke all records for 1920. The mines loaded 232,340 cars. Net production was estimated to be 12,727,000 tons.

A Michigan company is meeting with success in the cultivation of cranberries. Four hundred acres of marsh land are being brought under cultivation.

California farmers have taken over a new two-million-dollar terminal elevator at Oakland.

More than \$54,000 worth of food was preserved last season by 1,250 girl members of food clubs organized and conducted by Ohio State University.

The Department of Agriculture urges that farmers take advantage of the winter season to make an inventory which will determine their actual financial worth. The department will furnish plans for making up these lists.

The National Sheep and Wool Bureau of America has announced it will support a plan to bring about a year's embargo on the importation of wool.

The Harvard Committee on Economic Research says, "We find no reason to change the forecast of October 15 that we have passed the time in the business cycle when a financial panic would have occurred, if we were to have one."



Transportation

The census shows that a majority of this country's people live in cities and towns of more than 2,500 population.

California Honey Producers' Co-operative Exchange is putting honey up in small containers and shipping carload lots east.

The Interstate Commerce Commission has upheld the rates charged for refrigeration and transportation of butter, eggs, poultry and cheese. The ruling was in the case of the National Poultry, Butter and Egg Association against the Baltimore & Ohio, Southwestern Railroad and others.

The Department of Agriculture has notified a number of fertilizer manufacturers that prices quoted for mixed fertilizer for the spring trade are too high and that "manufacturers who exact unjust or unreasonable profit will be subject to prosecution."

If the government's shipping program is carried out the United States will probably have as much shipping in 1922 as all other countries combined, excepting Great Britain.

Six hundred cars of wheat were reported passing east through Regina, Canada, every 24 hours, the third week of December.

Two million six hundred forty-eight thousand acres are now being irrigated by water from government projects. During 1919 the value of crops grown on lands within government reclamation projects was \$25,000,000 greater than the total of \$125,000,000 expended on all projects constructed up to the close of the last fiscal year.

Wool stored in Louisville warehouses will be sent to Austria where the mills are closed down for lack of raw material. The finished cloth will then be returned to this country to be placed on sale. It is thought that the tariff and transportation cost will be nullified by the cheap labor in Austria. This movement will be undertaken by the Kentucky Farm Bureau Federation. About 600,000 pounds of raw wool can be disposed of in this manner.

Rice threshing in Louisiana is practically complete at this time. One plant in the irrigation district tabulated the yield received and found in an area of 9,500 acres in cultivation a yield of 6.9 bags an acre.

Bradstreet reported 1,085 failures with \$39,751,859 liabilities in the United States for November. This was the largest number since January, 1918.

Forty per cent of Canadian shipyards are said to be idle.

Government chemists say that sweet potatoes make a superior table and cooking syrup. The Department of Agriculture will furnish instructions on application.

A recent survey of 32,515 Illinois farms shows that unless horse breeding be resumed on a basis twice as extensive as at present, there will be a pronounced shortage of good farm horses within the next few years.

The farming of wild fur-bearing animals and the establishment of large sanctuary tracts is urged by the Department of Agriculture as the only sure means of preserving the fur supply.

According to Lloyds, the United States built 2,009,495 tons of new ships to replace losses of the war, Great Britain built 1,234,911 tons and Japan 414,957 tons.

The state highway commissioner of Connecticut has announced the restriction of motor trucks to loads of 20,000 pounds.

There are more than 1,000 known varieties of wheat.

Australia has engaged an entomological expert to spend a year in the cactus regions of Arizona in search of insects which will assist in eradicating the cactus.